Weaving Schools in the State.

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

READ—

Government Orders Nos. G. 5198-9, dated the 14th April 1904, No. G. 2345-6—Edn., dated the 17th November 1903, and No. 6652-3—Edn., dated the 30th June 1904, sanctioning the opening of weaving schools at Chiknayakanhalli, Dodballapur and Molakalmuru respectively.

2. Letter No. 18318-660, dated the 1st February 1918, from the Inspector-General of Education, submitting proposals for the re-organization of the weaving schools in the State.

(Printed in extenso as an appendix to the order.)

3. Correspondence ending with letter No. 4—E. C., dated the 8th July 1918, from the Secretary, Education Committee, forwarding the opinion of the Committee on the subject.

4. Also correspondence ending with letter No. 3858-328, dated the 29th October 1918, from the Director of Industries and Commerce on the subject.

No. 7603-4—EDN. 178-17-9, DATED 14TH FEBRUARY 1919.

There are at present five weaving schools in the State. Of these, the schools at Dodballapur, Chiknayakanhalli and Molakalmuru are under the management of Government, while those at Melkote and Hole-Narsipur received only grants-in-aid from Government. The Inspector-General of Education says that the above weaving schools are not working efficiently owing to want of adaptation to local conditions, want of provision for general education and shortage of funds for purchase of materials, etc., and proposes to improve the existing schools and to open eight new schools on a revised model to remedy the existing defects. The entire scheme involves a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 2,35,600 and a recurring cost of Rs. 71,612 per annum.

2. Government are pleased to direct that the weaving school at Dodballapur may be converted into a school on the model proposed by the Inspector-General of Education as an experimental measure. The following scale of expenditure will be sanctioned in connection therewith:—

RECURRING.

		Rs.
1.	*Establishment*—	
	1 Superintendent	75—5—100
	1 Weaving Instructor	25—$\frac{3}{2}$—40
	1 Weaving Shed Assistant	15—$\frac{2}{2}$—25
	1 Carpentry Instructor	20—1—30
	2 General Education Instructors with knowledge of drawing	20—1—30
	1 Clerk	15—1—20
	2 Peons	8 and 7
	1 Watchman	8
	Total	266 per mensem or 3,192 per annum.
	2 Boarding expenses	2,520
	3 Contingencies	120
	4 Carpentry branch, materials and tools	360
	5 Excursion expenses	200
	6 Prizes and bonus	100
	Total	3,300 per mensem.

Non-recurring expenditure.

		Rs.
1	Building for the school	14,000
2	Building for the Boarding Home	3,000
3	Equipment—	
	(*a*) Weaving branch	1,000
	(*b*) Carpentry	500
4	Training of the Maistry	180
5	Work deposit for weaving branch	2,000
6	Stock of scantling for carpentry branch	500
	Total	21,180

3. The Inspector-General of Education is requested to take all preliminary steps so as to give effect to the scheme from the beginning of the next official year. The Inspector-General of Education is requested to move Government in sufficient time beforehand for provision of funds in the Budget of the next year for this purpose.

P. G. D'SOUZA,
Secy. to Govt., Depts. of Edn. & Agri.

To—The Inspector-General of Education in Mysore.
The Comptroller, Mysore Government, through Financial Secretariat.

Letter No. 18318—660 Enclosures (two), dated Bangalore, 25th January 1918; from C. R. Reddy, Esq., M.A. (Cantab.), Offg. Inspector-General of Education in Mysore, to P. G. D'Souza, Esq., B.A., B.L., Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Departments of Education and Agriculture.

I have the honor to invite the attention of Government to their Orders No. G. 5198-9, dated 4th April 1904, No. G. 2345-6—Education, dated 17th November 1903, and No. 6652-3—Education, 30th June 1904, sanctioning the opening of Weaving Schools at Chiknayakanhalli, Dodballapur and Molakalmuru, respectively, and to submit, in the light of experience gained in the working of these schools, the following proposals for the re-organisation of the existing weaving schools and for the creation and development of new ones, commensurate in number to the requirements of the different districts of the State.

1. *Defects of existing weaving schools.*—It is necessary to state the principal reasons for the deterioration and the present condition of the weaving schools in the Province and to suggest remedies for their improvement and the lines on which it is proposed to run them in future. The chief defect noticed in the course of inspections by the Technical Assistant was *the want of adaptation* to local conditions. Until quite recently no attempt had been made to teach at the school processes that would naturally lead to the manufacture of the type of articles that are made locally and sold readily. The specialities, for which places like Dodballapur, Hole-Narsipur, Melkote and Molakalmuru are famous and which derive their names from the places of their manufacture (to mention for instance, Dodballapur Sadis, Hole-Narsipur pancheys, and Molakalmuru silk towels) have rarely had much attention from the weaving schools. Though the fly shuttle looms for the increase of production with the smaller counts of yarn had been successfully introduced at the schools, the types of articles manufactured locally involve complicated patterns and entail very advanced practice, as the weaving necessitates extra mechanical attachments to the fly-shuttle looms, which are generally beyond the capacity of most of the maistries. In fact, such mechanical attachments are themselves only quite recent developments in the line of fly-shuttle hand-loom work. The second of the chief difficulties that these schools have had to contend with has been *a serious shortage of funds* as can be appreciated from the fact that in a school of nearly 30 students, 20 students attending daily on the average, the provision per month has been only Rs. 80 for materials, which works out at the rate of Rs. 4 per month per student, a sum absurdly low, in view of the fact that one sample of Dodballapur sadi would easily absorb all the money allowed to one student and if the student completes the sadi, even at his own rate of speed, in a week, he will practically have to go without work for the remaining three weeks of the month. A school run on these lines cannot possibly give an impression of anything like activity to a casual observer. Thirdly, to make the schools attractive *some kind of general education is also essential.* This combined with a knowledge of drawing will give the necessary elementary training to the weavers to be able to keep their own accounts and realise how the ordinary sowcar generally manipulates the accounts of their transactions with him to the sowcar's own decided advantage. The absence of the provision of such education has been a serious drawback in another line of work also, in that the student having been denied the knowledge of even the rudiments of drawing is unable to appreciate new patterns supplied nor, when appreciation is possible, to incorporate them on the loom.

2. *Remedies suggested.*—The remedy for the first of the defects mentioned, *viz.*, the adaptation of the teaching to local manufactures is now proposed to be attained by a course of instruction, which for the first three years of training according to the courses outlined below will be on general fly-suttle work, but for the last two years will afford scope for special kinds of weaving, which is the peculiarity of each place. As an illustration of the want of organisation of the market for the weaver as well as the disadvantage from which he acutely suffers on account of being confined to certain limited types, we might mention the fact that while raw silk is sold in the Province at between six to seven annas a tola and the best variety of manufactured silk goods of say Molakalmuru, hardly fetch nine annas a tola in the market, the variety of silk goods which are imported from Japan and Europe